EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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"Estamos en este país buscando un sueño"

Estudiantes de Western International High School se unen en manifestación contra ICE

Por Luciana Vega y Erick Diaz Veliz.| Fotos por Luciana Vega

Santiago Zamora, un joven venezolano solicitante de asilo de 17 años, es estudiante de la escuela preparatoria Western International High School en Southwest Detroit y le apasiona jugar béisbol. El pasado viernes 27 de febrero por la tarde, frente a cientos de estudiantes que alzaban la voz en contra de ICE, el joven venezolano, con el rostro tenso por los nervios, compartió su experiencia al ser detenido por agentes de inmigración.

"Estamos en este país buscando un sueño, buscando una esperanza y buscando cómo salir adelante", comenzó Zamora. "Hace dos meses, fui detenido por ICE y pasé 40 días en Texas. Hace cuatro días detuvieron a mi papá; él se encuentra en la cárcel".

Rashida Tlaib stands in solidarity with students at Western International High School, showing her support for their student-led walkout.

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"We Are in This Country Seeking a Dream"

Students from Western International High School Rally Against ICE

By Luciana Vega and Erick Diaz Veliz | Photos by Luciana Vega

Santiago Zamora, a 17-year-old Venezuelan asylum seeker, is a student at Western International High School in Southwest Detroit and is passionate about playing baseball. Last Friday afternoon, February 27, standing in front of hundreds of students raising their voices against ICE, the young Venezuelan, his face tense with nerves, shared his experience of being detained by immigration agents.

"We are in this country seeking a dream, seeking hope, and seeking a way to move forward," Zamora began. "Two months ago, I was detained by ICE and spent 40 days in Texas. Four days ago, they detained my father; he is being held in jail."

Zamora had been arrested by

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Michigan's nationally recognized "I Voted" sticker contest returns for the November Election

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson recently announced the return of the nationally recognized "I Voted" sticker contest for the November 2026 Election. The Michigan Department of State (MDOS) is now accepting entries from students enrolled in Michigan schools and state residents.

"Our first-ever 'I Voted' sticker design contest in 2024 was a massive success," Secretary Benson said. "This year we look forward to seeing the creative ways Michiganders of all ages celebrate democracy. Submit your entry to help us continue the tradition and get voters excited to cast their ballot this fall."

Michiganders who wish to enter the contest must select one category and can submit one design. The categories are elementary/middle school (grades K-8), high school (grades 9-12), and general entry (open to Michigan residents of all ages).

Entries are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 1, 2026. Designs must be nonpartisan, completed on an official entry form available at www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/voting/i-voted-sticker-contest, and must include the phrase "I Voted." Artwork must be original, not AI-generated, and must not contain copyrighted or trademarked designs.

The public will have the opportunity to vote for finalists online throughout the month of June. Winners will be announced later in the summer and will receive special recognition from MDOS. The winning sticker designs will be provided to local election clerks for the November Election to give out to voters in their jurisdictions.

In 2024, MDOS received over 480 submissions for the sticker contest. Before the contest opened up for a public vote, the Michigan Collegiate Student Advisory Task Force members narrowed the submissions down to 25 semifinalists. Michiganders cast over 57,700 votes to select the three winning designs in each category.

For more information about the Michigan Collegiate Student Advisory Task Force, visit www.michigan.gov/sos/resources/initiatives/csatf.

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Poet JB McBurbs Keeps SW's Storied Past Alive. Don't Expect Shakespeare.

With a daily poem posted to a Facebook group that pulls eight million views a year, JB McBurbs gives Southwest's diaspora a place to gather.

By Michael D. Gutierrez

Every morning, Justin Burbank sits down in a living room that doesn't exist anymore—at least not in its original form. The whole space, outfitted in orange shag carpet and plaid furniture, is a physical reconstruction of the Brandon Street living room where he grew up in the '70s, built in the basement of his Warren home. Transported to his childhood by 5:30am, he opens his phone, types what comes to him, and within minutes posts it to "Southwest Detroit 'In Words,'" the Facebook group he runs.

"So all that I write and the lines in my brains? / Always lead back to Junction and Brandon Street drains.... / It's been 30 or more years since I sat on my porch..... / And I still call it mine like I own it of course."

Within hours, hundreds of the group's five-thousand-plus members fill the comments section. Current and former residents tag old friends and share photos of corner stores and school hallways, or recount their own versions of the streets he just put into poetry. Neighbors find each other in the thread, connected by a poem that was written over coffee before most people's alarms go off.

Southwest Detroit in the 1970s and '80s was a time that resists easy summary. Burbank, who grew up at 4796 Brandon Street, describes it plainly: "Black, Puerto Rican, Mexican, white, Laotian, Armenian—it was like the world in a quarter mile." To Burbank, the local poet who goes by the pen name JB McBurbs, the neighborhood's identity was built from the factories and river docks that made Detroit possible, including the Ford Rouge complex that Burbank still refuses to call Dearborn. "There'd be no suburbs without Southwest Detroit first," he says. "So yeah, we're cocky. Damn right we are."

That pride is everywhere in the poetry he writes daily and shares across Facebook, and it doesn't shy away from challenging times in the neighborhood's history. Burbank writes candidly about Southwest as it endured economic hardship, population decline, gang violence, Devil's Night fires, and even the crack epidemic. He also writes about his complicated father, a drug dealer, and about friends who caught bullets over hat colors. "The beauty in the hell," is how he puts it. If you catch one of his daily poems in your Facebook feed, you're sure to feel both in each one.

Burbank didn't start writing by choice. In fourth grade at St. Hedwig, he says he "pissed off the wrong nun," and his punishment was to write poetry for a month. "It has been nonstop in my head like that ever since," he says.

Last year, he nearly died after a three-foot blood clot had caused a 100% blockage in his femoral vein, building for two and a half years while he worked as a general contractor. When he finally drove himself to the hospital, doctors told him they usually don't find clots like his until autopsy. Today, he still faces the possibility of losing his left leg. "They medically disabled me, and they put me down," says Burbank. "And that's when I really ramped up."

Aside from the relatable content about Southwest, the style of Burbank's poems feels accessible, not academic. Nearly all of them come to him within minutes and are typed directly into his phone. Sometimes he finishes one and genuinely doesn't know where it came from. All rhyme and use everyday language that the people they're about relate to and use themselves. He even intentionally misspells words to throw off AI from cloning his voice. "I will never be Shakespeare," he wrote to his followers. "Ain't no one talking like that where we're from."

The beauty is that his audience isn't looking for meter and form, they're just looking to recognize themselves.

"Southwest Detroit 'In Words'" has become something more than a Facebook group. Spend some time perusing Burbank's countless poems (once you're admitted) and you realize it feels more like a digital class reunion for graduates of the Southwest school of hard knocks. "We do backyard barbecues in words around here," wrote Burbank in a welcome post.

A large portion of the people flooding the group with comments and old photographs are, like Burbank himself, former residents, many who left during the same years he did, for the same reasons, now reaching back toward a neighborhood they no longer live in.

In "My Prayer at Redeemer," Burbank turns the act of leaving Southwest into a confession, and in doing so, speaks for everyone in his audience who made the same choice and carries the same guilt:

"I'll say a million Our Fathers / And fill that basket with my Dollars / If your collar could undo what's been done..... / I want back My Junction, / If only again to understand the simple Function.... / Of what it meant??? To be a SOUTHWEST DETROIT SON !!!"

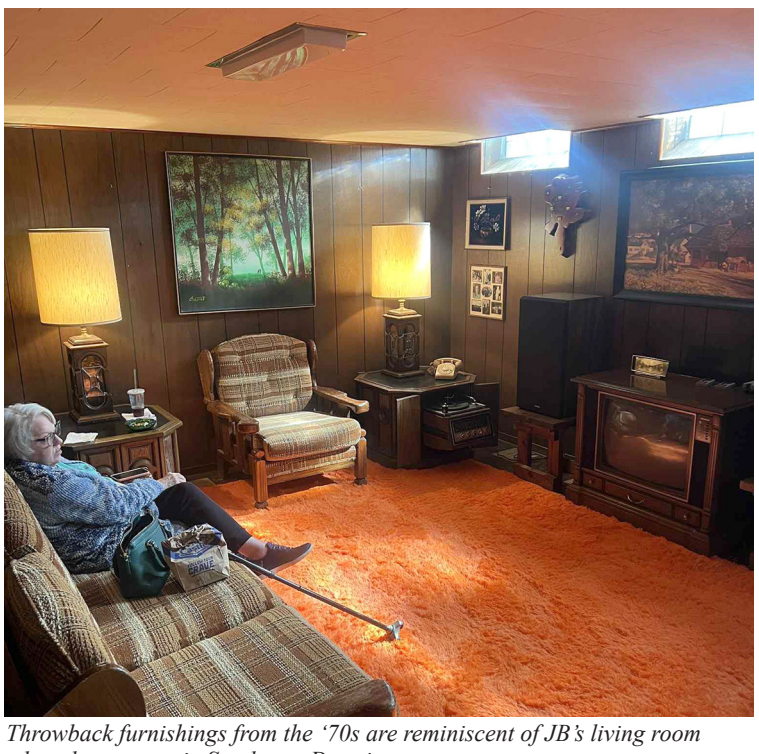
Like the poems themselves, the group holds the diaspora of Southwest Detroiters together across both distance and decades, but it also raises the question: is Southwest Detroit a memory to be eulogized, or a living place whose story is still unfolding?

Leaving Southwest Detroit in those years wasn't a choice made lightly or without cause, says Burbank. Crime was high, opportunities were shrinking, and families moved because they had to, not because they stopped loving the place.

That's exactly the audience Burbank writes for: people shaped by Southwest Detroit who couldn't stay in it, whose connection to the neighborhood is real and earned even if their zip code changed decades ago. Just because they aren't active participants in Southwest's current renaissance doesn't make their experience any less woven into its fabric. Burbank gives that experience its due, and his work serves as a reminder that the hardship didn't hollow Southwest out. Instead, the neighborhood responded to that struggle by pulling closer together.

Much like the team behind VOCES, the oral history project of Southwest's Latino community, Burbank is doing something related, but in his own way. His archive is unedited, unapologetic, posted before sunrise, written from the gut, and self-published on Facebook. After all, Burbank is just a man in a basement that smells like 1979, typing what comes to him, with eight million eyeballs a year on it.

Find Justin Burbank's work in the Facebook group "Southwest Detroit 'In Words.'" New members welcome—especially if you're from the neighborhood, or wish you were.



Throwback furnishings from the '70s are reminiscent of JB's living room where he grew up in Southwest Detroit

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DFO313 Launches 'Real Talk' Series to Open the Door for Detroit's Black and Brown Contractors

The four-part fireside chat series kicked off with developer Richard Hosey breaking down the financial barriers that keep local firms locked out of Detroit's building boom.

By Michael D. Gutierrez | Photos credits to Brayan Gutierrez

Richard Hosey sat in front of a room of nearly 45 contractors and developers at La Joya Gardens on West Vernor last Thursday and put words to what most of them already knew. The construction industry was built to exploit anyone without money. For Black and Brown contractors, he said, the math is even worse.

Tanya Saldivar-Ali moderates the panel featuring developer Richard Hosey.

"This business was rigged to exploit under-capitalized white males. We're just bonuses."

That kind of candor is what Tanya Saldivar-Ali and her husband Luis Ali built their "Real Talk" series to produce. Saldivar-Ali, who moderated the panel, co-founded AGI Construction with her husband in 2008. They launched DFO313, the workforce development arm of AGI, two years ago after nearly two decades of working as minority contractors in an industry she described as "very white male dominated."

Hosey and his partner Greg Jackson are turning Fisher Body Plant 21 into 433 apartments with more than 20 percent affordable units and 38,000 square feet of commercial space. The development costs are estimated at between $140 and $155 million, making it the largest Black-led construction project in Michigan history.

La Joya Gardens, where the first installment of the series was hosted, is the first new ground-up residential development Southwest Detroit has seen in more than 20 years.

The "Real Talk" series grew out of roundtable conversations DFO313 started holding with contractors at their Hubbard Richard headquarters, the Design-Build Green Hub, to talk through barriers that Saldivar-Ali says amounted to everything going wrong that nobody could figure out alone.

"The idea around Detroit Future Ops (DFO) is to really build out a trusted network of contractors and to centralize resources and programming," Saldivar-Ali said during the panel. "When people started engaging with us, they were just like, 'Hey, can we talk about this legal situation?' And it's not that we had the answer. It was just, 'Oh yeah, been there, done that. You should go talk to so and so.'

Hosey's session was the first of four scheduled programs in the first part of this year. Each takes on construction and development through a different lens. March 26 turns to affordable housing, April 16 to operations, and May 21 to sustainability. Dates and topics are still tentative, and DFO313 is fundraising to extend the initial programs into the fall months.

Luis Ali confers with DPD 4th Precinct Commander Shelly Holderbaum.

Ali, an electrician by trade and current board chair of the Southwest Detroit Business Association (SDBA), said the actual construction accounts for about 20 percent of running a contracting business. The rest is finance, process, and business management.

"Most people can do the work, but it's not the work," Ali said in a separate interview. "Partnership is the new leadership. There's nothing wrong with sharing to make other people better."

Angela Gallegos greets attendees at the registration table

Aaron Marks is one of those people. He's been an electrician for 29 years and has worked for other contractors his entire career. He showed up looking for mentorship as a way to avoid the pitfalls he knows are out there. What feels most confusing to him right now is "making sure everything comes in on time and on budget."

That's exactly what Hosey spent the evening breaking down. During the panel, Hosey walked through a single line item to show the room what keeps local contractors out of projects like his. He mentioned the ductless mini-split system for Fisher 21 – just the end units and condensers – cost $1.6 million. Under the traditional model, a contractor would need to buy all that equipment upfront, warehouse it, and wait to get paid back over the course of a year.

"If I came to the contractor and said, I just need you to go buy $1.6 million worth of these things and then show up," Hosey told the room, "that pushes a lot of people out."

So he changed the deal. On Fisher 21, Hosey carries the materials cost himself. He buys equipment, puts tools on site, and pays contractors faster than the standard draw schedule.

He recalled pitching the idea to his general contractor years earlier. "What if I carry the job?" he asked. The answer to that changed everything.

"Then we don't need any of these people," the GC told him. "We just need the talent."

Hosey also went after one of the most common excuses for low minority participation on Detroit job sites. He described a pamphlet from a local development organization that blamed low Black employment on illiteracy, drug use, and conviction rates.

Even accepting those inflated numbers, he said, you still have tens of thousands of qualified adults in the city.

The real barrier is money, Hosey argued. Excluding Black and Brown contractors shrinks the available labor pool and drives up pricing for everyone. "You got too many deals chasing too few white contractors, and that makes it where they are jacking up their pricing," he shared.

Saldivar-Ali said contractors are almost always the last ones brought into a project, long after architects, engineers, and financing structures are locked in place. At that point, the contractor "doesn't even understand what happened pre-deal," she said. "They never get to see the finance, what looks good on paper, what actually makes a deal work or not."

Terrence M. Hicks, a recruitment coordinator for The District Detroit, works under an executive order requiring 51 percent Detroit resident participation in its construction projects. He said most people never even hear about the opportunities, so he takes hiring information directly to community organizations, block clubs, and faith-based groups. Training only matters, he said, if there's a job at the end of it.

Another attendee, Tyrez Treadways owns several homes in the city and is looking to develop more, but said he keeps running into the same wall. Every time he finds a property, a corporation already owns it.

"If 80, 90 percent of everything is closed off, it's like you kind of lose interest in trying to invest within Detroit," Treadways said. "And start thinking about investing somewhere else."

That impulse is what DFO313 is trying to counter. DFO313 surveys attendees after each session and builds future programming from their responses. The organization's new website, www.dfo313.org, lists upcoming events.

"Let's go deeper than networking events," Ali said. "Let's talk about some really detailed things that are affecting us today. And then let's share, and then let's come up with some solutions."

Contractor advocate Jason Cole poses a question about contractor self-care during challenging times.

Determined Optimism: How Detroit's Small and Mid-Sized Businesses Are Growing in 2026

By Carlos Santacruz

Bank of America's 2025 Business Owner Report confirmed what we see every day from entrepreneurs across our communities here in Metro Detroit: cautious yet determined optimism. Nearly three in four business owners expect revenue gains in the next 12 months, and many plan to expand (59%), hire (43%) and secure financing (83%).

These findings suggest practical steps business owners can take now to position their business for success in the year ahead.

Invest in the right digital tools

Innovation remains a reliable path for efficiency and growth. Nearly all (91%) business owners plan to adopt digital tools over the next five years, with 52% aiming to accept more forms of digital payments and 50% planning to implement AI.

Many businesses have already made progress: 77% integrated AI over the past five years, using it for marketing (50%), content production (38%), customer service (37%) and inventory management (28%).

Building on that momentum, owners are modernizing payments to reduce friction at checkout and accelerate cash conversion, adding options such as Zelle, Venmo and Apple Pay to meet customer preferences.

New tools can also help business owners digitize repetitive workflows, such as scheduling, invoicing, and inventory alerts, freeing staff time for higher-value contributions. This can be particularly helpful for companies impacted by labor shortages (61%). As digital capabilities expand, businesses are also planning to increase cybersecurity measures (30%), strengthening authentication and data protection to preserve trust alongside growth.

Leverage community engagement around local events

Community engagement can help businesses grow and attract new customers. More than half of business owners (58%) have modified their operations around major events such as sports events, concerts and festivals by introducing targeted promotions, social content, themed campaigns and sponsorships. The approach has paid off: approximately half reported increased sales (51%), and nearly half saw growth on social media (47%). Roughly four in five plan to repeat these efforts in the future.

The wider halo effect from live events is substantial. For example, the Detroit Auto Show brought an estimated $370 million economic boost to Detroit's economy in 2025. Overall, the Detroit Auto Show has brought roughly $5 billion in economic activity to the region over the past two decades, through spending on local hotels, restaurants, retail stores, transportation and more. Whether it's a large event like the auto show, or a smaller festival in Southwest Detroit, local businesses can set measurable goals around event days, aligning staffing and hours and pairing in-person activations with digital calls to action to extend reach.

Another major driver of local economic growth is the new Michigan Central

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Station, a 30-acre technology and cultural hub in the former Michigan Central Railroad Depot that's turning Detroit's Corktown neighborhood into a major economic hub, attracting more than 2,000 workers so far, with more to come, prompting millions in neighborhood housing investments. Developments like Michigan Central benefit the surrounding community, allowing workers and residents to support local businesses in the city, including Southwest Detroit businesses a few miles away.

Manage cash flow with discipline

Disciplined cash flow management is critical for business owners, especially heading into 2026, when inflation (70%) and interest rates (58%) are top concerns. Most entrepreneurs (88%) report inflation impacting their businesses, prompting many to raise prices (64%) and scrutinize cash flow and spending plans (39%). Concurrently, 75% are facing supply chain pressures, leading to price adjustments (52%) and sourcing challenges (32%).

In response, business owners are proactively adjusting their financial strategies. This includes reevaluating cash flow projections, optimizing spending and exploring local sourcing options to build more resilient supply chains. Beyond these operational adjustments, a disciplined focus on liquidity is key. Owners should also engage with their bankers to review existing loan structures, ensuring they align with current cash flow profiles and the interest rate environment.

Plan for financing and succession

Demand for capital continues to underpin long-term operational health. 83% of business owners intend to obtain financing within the next 12 months, with business credit cards (53%) playing a key role, alongside personal savings (41%), traditional bank loans (32%) and personal credit cards (29%). Financing plans are informed by factors including expected growth, hiring and retaining staff and ongoing investments in digital tools.

Succession planning also remains a critical component of long-term planning, yet 40% of business owners have not prepared one. They can begin by identifying potential successors, outlining governance and core processes and tracking value drivers, such as margins and recurring revenue. Advisory teams, including bankers, CPAs and attorneys, can help, especially when engaged early in the process.

Turning optimism into action

Findings from the 2025 report signal that business owners are entering 2026 focused on steady growth, practical decision making and a readiness to invest where it matters. They are embracing digital tools and AI to remove friction for customers and streamline operations, engaging strategically with local events, tightening cash flow disciplines amid persistent cost and supply pressures, and taking a longer view on capital and succession to protect hard-won value.

One of the biggest challenges faced by small businesses across Detroit is securing the capital needed to fuel their growth and success. As the number one small business lender in the United States, Bank of America works directly with clients, providing personalized guidance to help them navigate current opportunities and strategically leverage available resources for capital access. Beyond one-on-one support, our robust financial education tools, such as the resources found on our Better Money Habits website, also helps empower business owners with the knowledge to optimize their financial health and unlock funding.

In Detroit, our Bank of America team is finding that the Business Owner Report's findings resonate with optimistic local business owners in 2026. As they focus on steady progress, they can look forward to proactively connect with their trusted banking partners to help plan their next steps toward growth and expansion.

Optimismo con determinación: cómo están creciendo las pequeñas y medianas empresas de Detroit en 2026

Por Carlos Santacruz

El Informe de Propietarios de Negocios de 2025 de Bank of America confirmó lo que vemos a diario en los empresarios de nuestras comunidades aquí en Detroit: optimismo con precaución, pero con determinación. Cerca de tres de cada cuatro propietarios de empresas esperan un aumento de ingresos en los próximos 12 meses, y muchos prevén expandirse (59%), contratar personal (43%) y obtener financiamiento (83%).

Estos resultados sugieren pasos prácticos que los empresarios pueden empezar a dar para dirigir su negocio hacia el éxito el próximo año.

Invertir en las herramientas digitales adecuadas

La innovación sigue siendo un camino confiable hacia la eficiencia y el crecimiento. Casi todos los dueños de empresas (91%) anticipan adoptar herramientas digitales en los próximos cinco años; el 52% tiene el objetivo de aceptar más formas de pago digital y el 50% planea implementar inteligencia artificial (IA).

Ya se ve el progreso en muchas empresas: el 77% integró IA en los últimos cinco años, utilizándola para marketing (50%), producción de contenido (38%), atención al cliente (37%) y gestión de inventario (28%).

Aprovechando este impulso, los propietarios de empresas están modernizando los pagos para reducir las dificultades durante el proceso de pago y acelerar la conversión de efectivo, agregando opciones como Zelle, Venmo y Apple Pay para atender las preferencias de los clientes. Otros están probando casos de uso específicos de IA, como la automatización de consultas rutinarias de clientes y la creación de descripciones de productos.

Las nuevas herramientas también pueden ayudar a los propietarios de empresas a digitalizar procesos de trabajo repetitivos, como la organización del tiempo, la facturación y las alertas de inventario, liberando tiempo del personal para invertirlo en tareas más importantes. Esto puede ser especialmente útil para las empresas afectadas por la escasez de mano de obra (61%). A medida que se expanden las capacidades digitales, las empresas también planean aumentar las medidas de ciberseguridad (30%), reforzando la autenticación y la protección de datos para preservar la confianza junto con el crecimiento.

Aprovechar la participación de la comunidad en eventos locales

La participación en la comunidad puede ayudar a las empresas a crecer y atraer nuevos clientes. Más de la mitad de los empresarios (58%) ha modificado sus operaciones en torno a eventos importantes como partidos deportivos, conciertos y festivales, presentando promociones específicas, contenido social, campañas temáticas y patrocinios. El enfoque ha sido fructífero, ya que aproximadamente la mitad destacó un aumento en las ventas (51%) y casi la mitad observó un crecimiento en las redes sociales (47%). Alrededor de cuatro de cada cinco contemplan volver a implementar estas iniciativas en el futuro.

El efecto de halo más amplio de los eventos en vivo es considerable. Por ejemplo, en 2025, el Salón del Automóvil de Detroit generó un crecimiento económico de cerca de $370,000,000 a la economía de Detroit. En general, el Salón del Automóvil de Detroit ha aportado a la región aproximadamente $5,000,000,000 en actividad económica durante las últimas dos décadas, por gastos en negocios locales como hoteles, restaurantes, tiendas minoristas y transporte, entre otros. Si se trata de un gran evento como el salón del automóvil, o de un festival más pequeño en el suroeste de Detroit, los negocios locales pueden establecer metas cuantificables en torno

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Abdul El-Sayed Maintains Call for Abolishing ICE in Grand Rapids Town Hall Sponsored by Latino Community Coalition

Story and photos by Erick Diaz Veliz

"When I talk about abolishing ICE, I'm talking about abolishing a paramilitary force that exists specifically to weaponize hatred through the government," said the Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate in Michigan, Abdul El-Sayed, to a packed room in a recent Grand Rapids town hall.

As part of his campaign across the state, El-Sayed gathered with supporters and residents for a meeting on Saturday, February 21 organized by the Latino Community Coalition. Guaranteeing healthcare, empowering unions, accessible housing, and defunding genocides were topics he mentioned during the speech; however, his remarks focused mostly on the abolition of ICE, a position he's pushed since 2018.

"It cannot be reformed. It cannot be retrained," El-Sayed said, referring to ICE. The candidate appealed to his family's immigrant past to criticize how the federal government is "trying to end the idea of immigration" and pouring money into ICE, which he described as an overfunded paramilitary force, surpassing agencies like the FBI or the Marines. "Instead of investing so much money in ICE, maybe we should be creating the infrastructure to create pathways to citizenship that are accessible to everybody," he said.

El-Sayed, who also ran for MI governor in 2018, maintained that abolishing ICE would not affect or weaken immigration control. On the contrary, he condemned ICE's actions as not how immigration policies should be enforced. "You can tell when the culture of an agency has turned. It's not possible to fix anymore," he said." It's proven that the law doesn't apply to them."

In pursuit of the vacant seat left by retiring Democratic Senator Gary Peters, El-Sayed, former Wayne County Health Director, is seeking the U.S. Senate along with U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens (D-Birmingham), state Sen. Mallory McMorrow (D-Royal Oak), and former U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers (R-White Lake).

Although the three Democrat candidates openly criticize the Trump administration and condemn ICE, El-Sayed is the sole candidate pushing for abolishing the agency. His Democratic opponents have opted for more moderate options, such as increased oversight and accountability, or appealing to laws that limit ICE activities in the United States.

Stevens supports the removal of Kristi Noem from office and has maintained her support for bills that would cut ICE's budget if the agency is not reformed or does not prohibit its officers from wearing masks. She visited the North Lake Correctional Facility a week ago and reiterated her demands for greater transparency and accountability from the immigration agency.

On the other hand, McMorrow maintains that ICE needs extensive reform. She previously defended ICE's existence in an interview on WDET aired on January 9, arguing that because Michigan is a border state, the immigration agency is necessary, but without resorting to terrorizing the community or targeting people based on skin color or accent.

Republican Rogers has defended ICE and, according to an analysis by The Gander, Rogers has received donations totaling up to $20,000 to his campaign from private prison companies that operate detention centers for ICE, such as GEO Group and CoreCivic.

El-Sayed was endorsed last year by U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders and, loyal to his style, the candidate also took the opportunity to launch a harsh critique of his Democratic colleagues and the political financing system.

He accuses them of being complicit in the social crisis by accepting money from the corporations that cause it. El-Sayed argued that not even mass deportations would solve structural problems such as the high cost of housing or the decline in education, stating that while immigrants are blamed, it is the same corporate donors who are "picking the pockets" of citizens.

In response to ICE's acquisition of a warehouse in Romulus to convert it into a new immigrant detention center, the candidate strongly opposed it and, like McMorrow, expressed that it is no coincidence that it comes months before the midterm elections and after Trump pointed out Detroit as a place where he would like to 'nationalize' the elections.

"What do you think they're setting up for? They're setting up so that they can deploy ICE in and around polling facilities to nationalize our elections," accused El-Sayed, who also encouraged his supporters to "step up and step out with all peaceful means".

Optimismo con determinación

Continuado de la página 4

a los días del evento, ajustando la dotación de personal y los horarios, y combinando las activaciones presenciales con llamadas a la acción digitales para ampliar el alcance.

Otro importante motor del crecimiento económico local es la nueva Michigan Central Station, un centro tecnológico y cultural de 30 acres ubicado en la antigua estación ferroviaria Michigan Central Railroad Depot, que está convirtiendo el vecindario de Corktown, Detroit, en un importante centro económico, atrayendo hasta ahora a más de 2,000 trabajadores, y con más por venir, lo que ha impulsado inversiones millonarias en viviendas en el área. Los desarrollos como Michigan Central benefician a la comunidad de los alrededores, ya que permiten a los trabajadores y residentes apoyar a los negocios locales de la ciudad, incluidos los del suroeste de Detroit, ubicados a unas cuantas millas.

Administrar el flujo de caja de manera disciplinada

Gestionar el flujo de caja con disciplina es fundamental para los dueños de empresas, especialmente al acercarnos al 2026, cuando la inflación (70%) y las tasas de interés (58%) son las principales preocupaciones. La mayoría de los empresarios (88%) informan que la inflación está afectando a sus empresas, lo que lleva a muchos a aumentar los precios (64%) y a analizar minuciosamente el flujo de caja y los planes de gastos (39%). Al mismo tiempo, el 75% se enfrenta a la presión de la cadena de suministro, lo que genera ajustes de precios (52%) y dificultades de abastecimiento (32%).

En respuesta, los propietarios de empresas están ajustando proactivamente sus estrategias financieras. Esto incluye reevaluar las proyecciones de flujo de caja, optimizar el gasto y explorar opciones de abastecimiento local para construir cadenas de suministro más resilientes. Más allá de estos ajustes operativos, es primordial tener un enfoque disciplinado en la liquidez. Los propietarios de empresas también deben trabajar con sus banqueros para revisar las estructuras de préstamos existentes, asegurándose de que se ajusten a los perfiles actuales de flujo de caja y al entorno de las tasas de interés.

Planificar el financiamiento y la sucesión

La demanda de capital sigue siendo la base de la salud operativa a largo plazo. El 83 % de los dueños de empresas tiene la intención de obtener financiamiento en los próximos 12 meses, y las tarjetas de crédito comerciales (53%) desempeñan un papel fundamental, junto con los ahorros personales (41%), los préstamos bancarios tradicionales (32%) y las tarjetas de crédito personales (29%). Los planes de financiamiento se basan en factores como el crecimiento previsto, la contratación y retención de personal y las inversiones continuas en herramientas digitales.

El plan de sucesión también sigue siendo un componente fundamental de la planificación a largo plazo; sin embargo, el 40% de los empresarios aún no ha establecido uno. Pueden comenzar identificando a los posibles sucesores, definiendo el esquema y los procesos centrales, y haciendo un seguimiento de los factores que generan valor, como los márgenes y los ingresos recurrentes. Los equipos de asesoría, que incluyen banqueros, contadores públicos y abogados, pueden ayudar, especialmente si se consideran en las primeras etapas del proceso.

Convertir el optimismo en acción

Los resultados del informe de 2025 indican que los propietarios de empresas llegan al 2026 centrados en un crecimiento sólido, en la toma de decisiones prácticas y en la disposición a invertir en lo que es importante. Están adoptando herramientas digitales e IA para eliminar las fricciones con los clientes y optimizar las operaciones, participando estratégicamente en eventos locales, reforzando las disciplinas de flujo de caja ante las persistentes presiones de costos y suministros, y adoptando una visión a largo plazo del capital y la sucesión para proteger el valor ganado con tanto esfuerzo.

Uno de los mayores retos a los que se enfrentan las pequeñas empresas de Detroit es obtener el capital necesario para impulsar su crecimiento y su éxito. Como principal prestamista para pequeñas empresas en Estados Unidos, Bank of America trabaja directamente con los clientes, proporcionándoles orientación personalizada para ayudarles a explorar las oportunidades actuales y a utilizar estratégicamente los recursos disponibles para acceder al capital. Más allá del apoyo personalizado, nuestras sólidas herramientas de educación financiera, como los recursos que se encuentran en nuestro sitio web Mejores Hábitos Financieros, también ayudan a empoderar a los propietarios de empresas, proporcionándoles los conocimientos necesarios para optimizar su salud financiera y para obtener financiamiento.

En Detroit, nuestro equipo de Bank of America ha descubierto que los resultados del Informe de Propietarios de Negocios han sido bien recibidos por los propietarios de empresas locales que se muestran optimistas en 2026. Al centrarse en un progreso constante, pueden esperar conectar de manera proactiva con sus socios bancarios de confianza para ayudarles a planificar sus próximos pasos hacia el crecimiento y la expansión.

Carlos Santacruz es Assistant Vice President y Business Banking Relationship Manager de Bank of America en Michigan.

Motor City Cruise Marks Hispanic Heritage Day with 149–118 Win Over Skyhawks

By Andrés Ospina, Minority Education Freedom Foundation

The Motor City Cruise celebrated Hispanic Heritage Day on February 22 at Wayne State Fieldhouse with a commanding 149–118 victory over the College Park Skyhawks, capping off an afternoon that blended professional basketball with a vibrant cultural showcase.

The event brought together community leaders, nonprofit organizations, local businesses, and fans for a program highlighting Hispanic culture and contributions across Metro Detroit. Festivities included music by DJ Izel and a featured performance by Reflejos Latinos, a folkloric ballet based in Ann Arbor. The group performed a milonga, a traditional dance style with roots in Argentina, Paraguay, and Brazil.

Hispanic Heritage Day was sponsored by Ideal Group and supported by several nonprofit partners, including Minority Education Freedom Foundation, Detroit Cristo Rey, Southwest Detroit Business Association, COMPÁS, and La Casa Guadalupana. Representatives from Alliance Catholic Credit Union and EL CENTRAL Hispanic News were also on site, hosting informational tables to share resources and connect with attendees.

As part of the celebration, Jennifer Galindez of Cristo Rey was presented with a commemorative jersey in recognition of her organization's engagement with the community. Anita Zavala received a special honor for her ongoing leadership and service to Detroit's Hispanic community.

The Cruise's decisive win provided the competitive highlight of the evening, while the cultural programming underscored the team's commitment to community engagement and inclusion beyond the court.

Motor City Cruise celebra el Día de la Herencia Hispana con victoria 149–118 ante los Skyhawks

Por Andrés Ospina, Minority Education Freedom Foundation

El equipo Motor City Cruise celebró el Día de la Herencia Hispana el pasado 22 de febrero en el Wayne State Fieldhouse con una contundente victoria de 149 a 118 frente a los College Park Skyhawks, en una jornada que combinó deporte profesional y una vibrante muestra cultural.

El evento reunió a líderes comunitarios, organizaciones sin fines de lucro, negocios locales y aficionados en una celebración que destacó el orgullo y la contribución de la comunidad hispana en el área metropolitana de Detroit. La programación incluyó música a cargo de DJ Izel y una presentación especial del ballet folklórico Reflejos Latinos, con sede en Ann Arbor. El grupo interpretó una milonga, baile tradicional con raíces en Argentina, Paraguay y Brasil.

La celebración contó con el patrocinio de Ideal Group y la participación de organizaciones como Minority Education Freedom Foundation, Detroit Cristo Rey, Southwest Detroit Business Association, COMPÁS y La Casa Guadalupana. Asimismo, negocios como Alliance Catholic Credit Union y EL CENTRAL Hispanic News instalaron mesas informativas para compartir recursos y fortalecer el vínculo con la comunidad asistente.

Durante el evento, se entregó una camiseta conmemorativa a Jennifer Galindez, representante de Cristo Rey, en reconocimiento a su compromiso comunitario. También se otorgó un reconocimiento especial a Anita Zavala por su destacada labor en favor de la comunidad hispana de Detroit.

La amplia victoria del Cruise marcó el punto culminante deportivo de la jornada, mientras que la programación cultural reafirmó el compromiso del equipo con la inclusión y el fortalecimiento del tejido comunitario más allá de la cancha.

Anita Zavala received a special honor for her ongoing leadership and service to Detroit's Hispanic community, during half time

De la oficina del Tesorero del Condado de Wayne,
Eric R. Sabree

PUEDE AYUDARLO CON EL PROCESO DE ASISTENCIA CON SUCESIONES

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Wrestling at Taqueria El Rey

Photo's by Adam J. Dewey/ EL CENTRAL PHOTOGRAPHER

On February 22nd., IBW (International BigTime Wrestling), held a 5 bout wrestling event at Taqueria El Rey.
IBW will host another wrestling event, on March 22nd, at Taqueria El Rey. Doors open at 3pm, event starts at 4pm. Tickets at the door are $15.

Castro Young leaps over Amazing N8

Roddy Sauvino makes his entrance, dancing with fans to Elvis Crespo's Suavamente

"Grimy" Zach Thomas puts MM3 into a headlock

Roddy Sauvino celebrates his title belt win over Father Marquis

Ric Cannon chokes out Moondog Brutus with chains along the ropes to take home the victory

Triple Platinum and The Den battle it out in an IBW tag team match

"We Are in This Country Seeking a Dream"

Continued from page 1

immigration agents and sent to Dilley Family Detention Center in Texas along with his mother after a Fraser police officer called U.S. Customs and Border Protection during a traffic stop in November while he was returning from a baseball practice. Zamora was released on January 18, and they returned to Detroit the following day.

Student youth organizer Camila addresses the crowd during walkout.

Recognizing that this has also happened to students in high schools in Howell, Grand Rapids, and Detroit, students showed up in groups, accompanied and supervised by faculty members, carrying signs and chanting what has been shouted for more than one year in Southwest Detroit and all across America: "ICE off our streets."

A student stands outside Western International High School holding a sign that reads, "Just because we are immigrants does not mean we are criminals."

The student-led demonstration took place outside the high school building at 2pm before the final bell for the school day. Hundreds of students staged the walkout in response to the increased ICE and CBP patrol and detention activity in Southwest Detroit. School faculty members, students, and local organizers also spoke in solidarity with five of their classmates who were recently detained, one of whom was deported to Colombia in June last year.

One of the local activist organizations that provided help on safety and logistical planning was Urban Neighborhood Initiatives (UNI) in Southwest Detroit, a community-focused organization that does community service work. Tammi Cervantes, youth organizer at UNI, told EL CENTRAL that students planned the walkout around three weeks ago, and they didn't want to "rush into something."

As a resident of Southwest Detroit, Cervantes highlighted the fear that the crackdown on immigrant families has been unleashed across the country. "They're afraid for their children, of their children, our immigrants themselves. We've seen a lot of arrivals at a lot of the schools, and these children themselves are immigrants," said Cervantes. "Parents are afraid for themselves and for their children, and no one wants to have to put their child through a potential detention center, which can be very traumatic."

U.S. Congressmember Rashida Tlaib (D-MI-12) also spoke during the rally and urged students to know their rights to protect themselves and their family and friends from illegal actions by ICE and CBP. "They're coming after all of us, and I don't say this to make you scared. I say this so you all can prepare. We are the only ones who can protect us. You understand? So when I say ICE," Tlaib exclaimed, the students loudly responded "OUT!"

For Angel Garcia, principal at Western International High School, these are important times to show a strong community presence, which also strengthens this message. "I hope this creates an urgency when it comes to participating in the political process. Our students know what's right and what's wrong," he said to students gathered for the rally.

Western International High School Principal Angel Garcia speaks at the student-led walkout, expressing that Western stands with its students and supports their right to freedom of speech.

In a phone interview later, Garcia told EL CENTRAL that after a year of increasing numbers of immigration agents' activities in Southwest Detroit, they have seen some attendance declines, but not in "astronomical" numbers. He also emphasized that the school space is a sanctuary and is safe for students, and in cases when some students decide to be absent due to fear of themselves or their parents, the school provides resources to continue their classes.

"When students are not willing to come to school in person because of fear or apprehension, we've come up with strategies to keep them engaged while being sensitive to those concerns. Our district offers virtual school as an option, and we've been able to help some students by leveraging that resource," Garcia said.

The principal added that the walkout had been announced by student groups on social media, giving parents time to decide whether or not to send their children. He believes many students didn't participate due to a palpable fear of speaking out, a fear that has been irrigated on their parents. However, he mentioned he is proud of his students and applauded the presence of local activists and politicians.

Not all students chose to participate in the walkout; some remained inside the building and continued their classes.

"I would imagine there are kids who wouldn't come out for the same reasons they might be afraid to come to school. You never really know. I think that was part of the reason they didn't want to go across the street — they felt it was safer here," Garcia said. "I spoke to a mom who told her daughter not to walk out. It's not because she's against the message. She just doesn't want her to be in danger."

The demonstration proceeded in a completely peaceful manner. Students sang and raised their voices with emotion, mindful of the tense relationship between immigrant students at this school and immigration agents in the area since Donald Trump began his second administration. That relationship, as in the case of Zamora, has included communication between local police and U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents. Or in the case of Mor Ba, a Senegalese asylum seeker and graduate of Western International High School, it meant being arrested and detained at North Lake Correctional Facility before being released to his home in Detroit on a $10,000 bond.

Photo credits to Luciana Vega

Victoria Camille, current member of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners representing District 7, highlighted the abuse suffered by immigrants detained by immigration agents and the losses they represent. Furthermore, she addressed concerns about alleged collaboration between the DPD and immigration agents, emphasizing that she will do everything possible to keep the community safe.

"This is more than a technical conversation; it starts with looking at the impact happening to human beings. When ICE and Border Patrol take our loved ones, they're experiencing abuse in custody, loss of jobs, loss of family, loss of children, loss of vehicle, and loss of real estate. Loss of bonds that range from $1,500 to $20,000 and more. Who in the world can afford that? It's a shame," Camille said.

Jasmin Maciel, faculty member and alumna of Western International High school, speaks out about her experiences with immigration while growing up in Southwest Detroit and how they have impacted her life.

Camila distributes pre-made whistle kits containing educational "Know Your Rights" materials to students in the crowd during the walkout.

Community members drove by holding signs in support of the students.

Luciana Vega is a photojournalist with a background in healthcare and a deep love for the culture and community of Southwest Detroit. Passionate about its vibrant music scene, she aims to capture and share the stories of its people through photography.

Erick Diaz Veliz is a Peruvian reporter based in Lansing, Michigan. He has documents and reports on cultural, social, and political issues in Peru and Michigan as a freelancer. Erick was born in Lima, Peru, and has been living in Lansing since 2018.

This article and photos were made possible thanks to a generous grant to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news.

Detroit Elected Officials Hear Stories from Michiganders Affected by ICE; These Are Their Stories

Story and photos by Erick Diaz Veliz

Her hands carried a map of the city of Pontiac, divided by districts; some of her bags made it difficult for her to hold it comfortably. Moving slowly, adjusting what she carried on her shoulders and in her hands, she was received by State Sen. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit) and Mary Cavanagh (D-Redford Township). Elida Reyes, a resident of Pontiac, explained to them that each of the nearly 90 pins represents a person or group taken by immigration agents throughout 2025, since July.

Elida Reyes shows her map of ICE abductions in the city of Pontiac.

"Well, a lot of husbands have already been taken, and they're sitting at North Lake [Detention Center]. They're being deported, and the wives and the kids want to go. There are so many roadblocks now. They can't even go to the airport to get self-deported because they're picked up from the airports and then they're pulled apart," Reyes told the senators.

The meeting between these women was no coincidence. On the afternoon of Friday, February 27, a group of elected officials from Detroit—legislators and council members—met with people affected by immigration enforcement, along with residents, activists, and faith leaders, at a forum in Northwest Detroit. The event, held on the campus of Wayne County Community College, was attended by Detroit Councilmembers Gabriela Santiago-Romero and Denzel McCampbell; State Senators Stephanie Chang, Mary Cavanagh, and Jeremy Moss (D-Bloomfield Township); and Representative Veronica Paiz (D-Harper Woods).

Among them, each politician recalled their actions to reduce ICE activities in our communities. Chang, Cavanagh, and Moss introduced Senate Bills 508, 509, and 510, aimed at limiting the expansion of ICE agents through data protection, restricting agents' activities in designated places, and limiting mask use by federal agents. Meanwhile, Paiz had introduced House Bill 4858 to prevent the disclosure of information for immigration enforcement purposes without a court order.

"They respond to deeply troubling enforcement tactics that are creating fear and instability in our communities, undermining trust in law enforcement, and eroding due process," said Cavanagh. "We are here to also uplift the voices of our residents so we can hear how important this problem is."

For Reyes, immigrant stories have always been close to her. She comes from an immigrant family and is a regular attendee of All Saints church, which she says many Latino immigrants used to go to, but now none of them go anymore. That is where she met Vera three years ago, a young Venezuelan woman who had recently arrived in the country, fleeing the regime of Nicolás Maduro. Reyes, along with her husband, housed Vera as their child for as long as they could.

Reyes says she had all her papers in order since they were following legal processes to find asylum; however, Vera was arrested by ICE and eventually deported to Venezuela. Every time she talks about her, Reyes tears up her eyes, and her voice breaks; it was in December last year that she saw her in a detention center in Louisiana before she was deported to Venezuela.

Faith leaders speak at the community forum.

Since then, Reyes, along with neighbors, decided to create Community Aid For Empowerment, an aid network that provides help to immigrants with grocery shopping, financial support, and ICE watches.

Ann Vue sits next to her husband, Lue Yang, while sharing his story of being detained by ICE.

The two nephews of Dr. Seydi Sarr, a 51-year-old Senegalese immigrant, were apprehended by ICE while they were driving and sent to the North Lake Detention Center in Baldwin. One was released on a $10,000 bond, which was paid in collaboration with advocacy groups and the community; the other, Jily Niang, 22, has been detained for over a month.

"The fact that we can't drive without a driver's license in Michigan has made the situation worse here. Many migrants are being arrested for traffic violations. MDOT says it has agreed to and approved license plate readers, yet we still can't legally drive or even qualify for a driver's license. So, what are we supposed to do?"

Sarr described the appalling conditions inside North Lake, which he has to drive for more than three hours each way to visit his nephew during limited visiting hours, from 8 a.m. to noon, and the inmate count that lasts until 11:30 a.m. Poor food, strict visiting rules, and a lack of regard for inmates' religious beliefs are some of the hardships his nephew endures.

As Muslims are in Ramadan, Sarr denounced the lack of religious accommodation inside the facility. "All the African Muslim detainees had selected regular and not halal food. When the guard left, I asked them why. They said, 'Seydi, the halal food is worse than the regular food. At least with the regular tray, we get some kind of hot dog and beans. The halal meal—they can't even explain what it is," said Sarr. She mentioned that the Muslim detainees don't receive enough calories. "They're given a cookie, an orange, and a small slice of bread. The conditions are horrific, and it's happening right in front of us," she said.

Sen. Stephanie Chang addressing the audience.

The complaints against North Lake were joined by those of the Ramírez sisters, Samantha and Naomi, whose father, Fernando Ramírez, spent 103 days in the detention center. Furthermore, through the support network for North Lake detainees that they created, the testimonies became more extensive.

"There have been many examples that my dad has witnessed while he's in North Lake, where he's seen people go in diabetic shock," Naomi Ramirez said. "There are so many issues inside beyond medical neglect. They threaten them with solitary confinement, which is shocking to me, because they're not criminals."

Lue Yang and Ann Vue are both residents of Saint John's, MI, and parents of six kids. Vue is a first-generation daughter of a Hmong refugee, and Yang is an asylum seeker and refugee who escaped the Vietnam War. He was detained by ICE in July and released in December last year.

"Since July 15, Lue has been transferred across the country—from Michigan to Louisiana, to Texas, to Arizona, and back again—moved through detention centers, processing facilities, and staging sites," Vue said. "Each transfer came without notice. Each one meant days of not knowing where he would end up."

Although Vue is thankful for the second chance her husband received, she described the fear families—especially children—experience when loved ones are detained by immigration agents in a country she once saw as a refuge. She added that repeated transfers cause lasting trauma for detainees, their families, and even school staff, as those inside struggle to stay mentally strong.

"My father-in-law—who was one of those who escaped Laos—said to me the other day, 'At least in our country, in Laos, we could hide behind trees, in the mountains, in caves. Here, there's nowhere to hide.' And now, after the killing of two individuals [in Minneapolis], you start to wonder: will my neighbor help me?" Vue said.

The forum ended a little over two hours after Ms. Reyes arrived with her map.

Dr. Seydi Sarr speaks at the community forum.

Santiago-Romero told EL CENTRAL that the attacks on these minority families are "very American"; however, she added that community organizing will help them "fight back."

"While I don't want to give false hope that the government will save us, I do have faith that communities coming together and helping one another will keep us safer," Santiago-Romero said. "This is the reality of elections, and these are its consequences."

Elected leaders listen to testimonies from immigrant communities affected by ICE. From left, Detroit City Council President James Tate, Detroit City Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero, State Sen. Stephanie Chang, State Sen. Mary Cavanagh, State Sen. Jeremy Moss, State Rep. Veronica Paiz.

Titans Defeat Golden Grizzlies In Metro Series Event

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS
Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by Adam J. Dewey/ EL CENTRAL PHOTOGRAPHER

This past Saturday, the University of Detroit Mercy Titans defeated Oakland University Golden Grizzlies, 95 - 89.

The Titans had gotten revenge against the Golden Grizzlies, for a home loss earlier in the season, Golden Grizzlies 95 - Titans 87.

Tians Senior Orland Lovejoy scored 29 points, Sophomore TJ Nadeau scored a career best 28 points, and redshirt Freshman Tyler Spratt scored 15 points in the game against the Golden Grizzlies.

Both teams qualified for the Horizon League playoff games and will play this week.

Highlights below are from the Titans vs. Golden Grizzlies game

Titans sophomore #33 TJ Nadeau, makes a contested shot over Golden Grizzlies. Nadeau scored 28 points against Golden Grizzlies. Nadeau is from Detroit Catholic Central High School and third team All Horizon League

Golden Grizzlies #2 Ziare Wells looks to make a pass under the hoop.

Titans senior Orlando Lovejoy (from Detroit, MI and from Summit Academy North High School) making a play against Golden Grizzlies #55 Brody Robinson. Lovejoy had 29 points in the game, and a transfer from Eastern Michigan University, and first team Horizon League Offensive league and Defensive league. Robinson scored 19 points in the game and is first team Horizon League offense

University of Detroit Mercy Titans head coach Mark Montgomery speaks to his players during a timeout, and rallying his team to his first Metro Series win against Golden Grizzlies

Golden Grizzlies #12 Tuburu Naivalurua (from Sydney, Australia) makes a move near the baseline to escape defensive pressure. Naivalurua scored 24 points in the game

Oakland head coach Greg Kampe shouts in a play adjustment

Less Than 100 Days and Multiple Crises

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

Mexico is scheduled to kick-off the 2026 FIFA World Cup less than 100 days from now against South Africa. That paints a rosy picture of a spectacle in the Azteca, which has already hosted the World Cup twice. However, the shifting environment domestically and globally has cast doubts upon how that spectacle will unfold beginning in June.

Politics constantly gets in the way of sport, but this year's World Cup will have far more than its fair share of issues in the buildup. Mexico and the United States have a lot of work to do to make sure this summer's tournament goes off without a hitch. So far, Canada has remained relatively untroubled by the chaos elsewhere.

Under pressure from the United States to take a stand against the cartels responsible for a significant portion of the illicit drug problem in the USA, Mexico made a major move by killing drug lord Nemesio Oseguera Cervantes, also known as El Mencho. That produced a wild reply from his minions that included fires blocking major roads and shootings in a number of states. FIFA has expressed its concerns to Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum and has planned a visit to review security.

Mexico is not just hosting World Cup games at three venues in June. They are also hosting the FIFA playoffs at the end of March. Those games will determine two of the remaining six spots. FIFA will have to address the security of the teams, their supporters, and the match officials quickly. Relocating the four games to a safer location, if necessary, has to be decided quickly.

While Mexico deals with the drug cartels internally, two participating teams are now at war. The United States, host of the majority of this summer's games, is now engaged with the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Iranians were the first team to qualify from Asia. They are set to play against Belgium, Egypt, and New Zealand during the group phase. Two of those games are scheduled for the SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles, home of one of the world's largest Iranian expatriate populations. The Iranian football federation had also selected Tucson, Arizona for its pre-tournament training camp.

Now that the United States and Iran are at war, the Iranian football federation has cast doubt on their participation this summer. Already, Iran is one of a number of countries with severe travel restrictions on its citizens coming to the United States. What happens if Iran withdraws, refuses to send its team, or otherwise is unable to participate? The next best team in Asian qualifying was Iraq who defeated the UAE to advance to the FIFA playoffs scheduled for Mexico. FIFA could give the spot to Iraq. Or, if Iraq wins the playoff, they could give it to the UAE, so that the Asian Football Confederation fills its allocated places. That's all to be determined in the near future.

The war hasn't just affected the United States, Iran, and Israel. Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Qatar will be at the World Cup and have come under fire from Iranian missiles. There is also the risk that the conflict could widen to include other nations. The United Kingdom, which includes England, Scotland, and Wales, has already shot down a couple of drones near its base on Cyprus. Tensions are running high across the Middle East.

Iran is not the only country with travel restrictions. While the US government has passed legislation to ensure the participants can travel to and within the US during the World Cup, no such assurances have been provided for supporters of Haiti, Senegal, or the Ivory Coast. Citizens from those countries won't be able to come to the United States to support their teams. Haiti already has a built in fanbase due to a long period of immigration. On a side note, Senegal will be playing the USA in a warmup game on May 31 in Charlotte, North Carolina. That may be as interesting off the field as on it.

The Olympics didn't provide a respite from war as the conflict in Ukraine continues. It's unlikely the World Cup will see a halt to violence either. FIFA will have its work cut out to guarantee everyone's security this summer. The next step will be for the US based host cities, working with FIFA, to convince the US Congress to unfreeze the budgeted funds targeted towards security. Already Foxborough, Massachusetts has refused to issue a license permitting no fewer than seven games to go ahead. The partial shutdown of the Department of Homeland Security means that FEMA cannot dispense the funds. It's just another headache for the organizers to handle.

Eventually, there will be a World Cup this summer. It's going to be a magnificent spectacle. There will just be a lot of stress and a variety of battles fought between now and then. Ideally, the battles on the pitches around North America will be more memorable than those outside the stadiums.

Lions Trade Montgomery to Houston Texans

Photos by Adam J. Dewey/ EL CENTRAL PHOTOGRAPHER, unless otherwise noted

The Detroit Lions have traded RB #5 David Montgomery to the Texans for OL Juice Scruggs (from the Houston Texans), along with 2026 (4th) and 2027 (7th) round draft picks. Scruggs has played 3 years with the Houston Texans, and also went to Penn State.

Photos below are highlights of David Montgomery and David Scrugg

Lions Rb #5 David Montgomery stiff arms defender

Lions Rb #5 David Montgomery (traded to the Houston Texans) talks with Lions RB Jahmyr Gibbs before a play

Lions Rb #5 David Montgomery makes a play against defense

Lions Rb #5 David Montgomery celebrates TD with offense

Photo provided by state college magazine
Newly acquired offensive lineman Juice Scruggs from the Houston Texans

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"Estamos en este país buscando un sueño"

Continuado de la página 1

Zamora fue arrestado por agentes de inmigración y enviado al centro de detención familiar Dilley Family Detention Center en Texas junto con su madre, después de que un oficial de policía de Fraser llamara a la Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de EE. UU. (CBP, por sus siglas en inglés) durante un retén en noviembre, mientras regresaba de una práctica de béisbol. Zamora fue liberado el 18 de enero y regresaron a Detroit al día siguiente.

Reconociendo que esto también le ha sucedido a estudiantes en otras secundarias en Howell, Grand Rapids y Detroit, grupos de estudiantes se hicieron presentes, acompañados y supervisados por maestros y personal escolar, llevando pancartas y coreando lo que se ha gritado por más de un año en el Suroeste de Detroit y en todo Estados Unidos: "ICE off our streets" (Fuera ICE de nuestras calles).

La manifestación liderada por los estudiantes se llevó a cabo a las 2 p.m. fuera del edificio de la escuela, antes de la campana final del día de clases. Cientos de estudiantes organizaron esta salida masiva en respuesta al aumento de la patrulla y las actividades de detención por parte de ICE y la CBP en el suroeste de Detroit. Miembros del personal de la escuela, estudiantes y organizadores locales también hablaron en solidaridad con cinco de sus compañeros que fueron detenidos recientemente, uno de los cuales fue deportado a Colombia en junio del año pasado.

Una de las organizaciones activistas locales que brindó ayuda en cuanto a seguridad y planificación logística fue Urban Neighborhood Initiatives (UNI) en Southwest Detroit, una organización sin fines de lucro enfocada en el trabajo comunitario. Tammi Cervantes, organizadora juvenil en UNI, comentó a EL CENTRAL que los estudiantes planearon la manifestación hace unas tres semanas y que no querían "hacer las cosas a la ligera".

Como residente del suroeste de Detroit, Cervantes destacó el miedo que ha desatado en todo el país la represión contra las familias inmigrantes. "Temen por sus hijos, y muchos de esos jóvenes, son nuestros propios inmigrantes. Hemos visto muchas llegadas a varias de las escuelas, y estos niños son inmigrantes", dijo Cervantes. "Los padres tienen miedo por ellos mismos y por sus hijos, y nadie quiere tener que pasar por un centro de detención, ya que es una experiencia traumática".

La congresista estadounidense Rashida Tlaib (D-MI-12) también habló durante la concentración e instó a los estudiantes a conocer sus derechos para protegerse a sí mismos, a sus familiares y a sus amigos de las acciones ilegales de ICE y la CBP. "Vienen por todos nosotros, y no digo esto para asustarlos. Lo digo para que todos puedan prepararse. Somos los únicos que podemos protegernos a nosotros mismos. ¿Entienden? Así que cuando yo diga ICE", exclamó Tlaib, los estudiantes respondieron en voz alta "¡FUERA!".

Para Ángel García, director de la Western International High School, estos son tiempos importantes para mostrar una fuerte presencia de la comunidad, lo que también refuerza este mensaje. "Espero que esto cree un sentido de urgencia en cuanto a participar en el proceso político. Nuestros estudiantes saben qué es lo correcto y qué es lo incorrecto", le dijo a los estudiantes reunidos en la manifestación.

En una entrevista telefónica más tarde, García le dijo a EL CENTRAL que, después de un año del incremento en las actividades de agentes de inmigración en Southwest Detroit, han visto algunas caídas en la asistencia, pero no en cifras "astronómicas". También enfatizó que el espacio escolar es un santuario y es seguro para los estudiantes, y en los casos en que algunos estudiantes deciden ausentarse por temor propio o de sus padres, la escuela proporciona recursos para que puedan continuar con sus clases.

"Cuando los estudiantes no están dispuestos a venir a la escuela en persona por miedo o preocupación, hemos creado estrategias para mantenerlos involucrados, siendo sensibles a esas inquietudes. Nuestro distrito ofrece la escuela virtual como una opción, y hemos podido ayudar a algunos estudiantes aprovechando ese recurso", dijo García.

El director agregó que la manifestación había sido anunciada por grupos de estudiantes en redes sociales, dándoles tiempo a los padres para decidir si enviar a sus hijos o no. Él cree que muchos estudiantes no participaron debido a un temor palpable a hablar, un miedo que se ha sembrado en sus padres. Sin embargo, mencionó que está orgulloso de sus estudiantes y aplaudió la presencia de activistas locales y políticos.

No todos los estudiantes decidieron participar en el recorrido; algunos permanecieron dentro del edificio y continuaron con sus clases.

"Me imagino que hay chicos que no saldrían por las mismas razones por las que podrían tener miedo de venir a la escuela. Uno nunca sabe realmente. Creo que esa fue parte de la razón por la que no querían cruzar la calle, sentían que era más seguro aquí", dijo García. "Hablé con una mamá que le dijo a su hija que no saliera. No es porque esté en contra del mensaje. Simplemente no quiere que corra peligro".

La manifestación se llevó a cabo de manera completamente pacífica. Los estudiantes cantaron y alzaron la voz con emoción, conscientes de la tensa relación entre los estudiantes inmigrantes de esta escuela y los agentes de inmigración en el área desde que Donald Trump comenzó su segunda administración. Esa relación, como en el caso de Zamora, ha incluido comunicación entre la policía local y los agentes de la Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza de EE. UU. O en el caso de Mor Ba, un solicitante de asilo senegalés y graduado de la Western International High School, significó ser arrestado y detenido en el centro correccional North Lake Correctional Facility antes de ser liberado a su hogar en Detroit bajo una fianza de $10,000.

Victoria Camille, miembro actual de la Junta de Comisionados de Policía de Detroit representando al Distrito 7, destacó los abusos que sufren los inmigrantes detenidos por agentes de inmigración y las pérdidas que estos representan. Además, abordó las preocupaciones sobre la presunta colaboración entre el DPD (Departamento de Policía de Detroit) y los agentes de inmigración, enfatizando que hará todo lo posible para mantener segura a la comunidad.

"Esto es más que una conversación técnica; comienza con mirar el impacto que está ocurriendo en seres humanos. Cuando ICE y la Patrulla Fronteriza se llevan a nuestros seres queridos, están experimentando abusos bajo custodia, pérdida de trabajos, pérdida de familiares, pérdida de hijos, pérdida de vehículos y pérdida de bienes raíces. Pérdida de fianzas que oscilan entre los $1,500 y más de $20,000. ¿Quién en el mundo puede pagar eso? Es una vergüenza", dijo Camille.

EDITORIAL OPINION

Guest Opinion:

Trump Hasn't a Clue What He's Doing

He has no endgame for his war, which may be his undoing

By Robert Reich

Trump said last Monday that the United States would continue attacking Iran for "whatever it takes."

But what's the "it" in that sentence?

He also said: "We're destroying Iran's missile capability" and "annihilating their navy" and ensuring that "this sick and sinister regime" in Iran "can never obtain a nuclear weapon."

But how will we know when we've achieved any of this?

American intelligence officials say Iran has not tried to rebuild its main nuclear sites since the U.S. attack in June. Iran's stockpiles of enriched uranium are still buried deep under rubble. The head of the International Atomic Energy Agency says his agency has found no evidence that Iran resumed enriching uranium since June.

Yet even more U.S. forces are headed to the Middle East, and Trump says bigger waves of airstrikes are coming. He hasn't ruled out sending in ground troops.

Neither Trump nor anyone else in his regime has provided any clarity about how we'll know whether we've "won" this war.

He has no endgame. He's given out different timelines and goals, depending on when and to whom he's speaking. Asked by NBC News what his objectives are, he said, "Number one is decapitating them, getting rid of their whole group of killers and thugs." He told The Washington Post, "All I want is freedom" for the Iranian people.

Trump told ABC News' Rachel Scott on Sunday that he had a "beautiful plan" for Iran's future. He told other outlets there were "good" candidates to take over but later told ABC's Jon Karl that the people he had in mind were all dead.

I can't help thinking about the Vietnam War, which preoccupied much of my youth (and, since he's almost exactly my age, presumably Trump's as well). There was no clear endgame there, either.

The biggest difference between Trump's Iran war and Lyndon Johnson's in Vietnam was that during Vietnam, America had a draft — which meant the administration had to repeatedly justify the war to the American people. As that misbegotten war escalated and its justification became ever more elusive, it grew to become a central focus of American politics, eventually causing LBJ to drop out of the 1968 presidential race.

But Trump feels no pressure to justify or explain anything. He has no clue what he's doing in Iran. He's winging it. He believes he can somehow pull it off because he thinks he's invincible.

It's Trump's M.O. He loves to create chaos because chaos allows him to improvise — to impose his own narrative on a flood of events, dodge responsibility for failures, take credit for successes, and create illusions of glory and victory.

But the chaos he's ignited in the Middle East is so large that the narrative may already be out of his control. The conflagration is escalating and spreading too fast. Just three days in, he's making conflicting and inconsistent decisions and providing conflicting accounts.

He assumed a war would be helpful to him. It would justify emergency measures at home. It would deflect attention from his multiple failures. It would make him seem larger.

But it is already making him smaller, more hostage to what's occurring than leader, more Netanyahu's patsy than senior partner, another American president sucked into the giant maw of the Middle East.

Americans have short memories, but they do recall that Trump was reelected to accomplish three things: First, to get prices down. He hasn't

done this. Inflation is growing at an annualized rate of nearly 3 percent. Oil prices are about to go through the roof because of the war he's ignited in the Middle East.

Second, he promised to get control of the nation's southern border. He's done this by unleashing immigration agents inside America on people here legally and doing so with such barbarity — including at least two murders — that most Americans think he's gone too far.

His third promise was to avoid foreign entanglements. He said during the 2024 campaign that he'd "break the cycle of regime change" and avoid "reckless" policies. He noted that toppling regimes without plans creates "power vacuums that are filled simply by terrorists." He wanted to shift America away from being "the policeman of the world." He repeatedly promised to "expel the warmongers" from government. On election night in November 2024, he declared, "I'm not going to start a war. I'm going to stop wars."

Trump has broken this pledge with astounding negligence. He has launched a war in the Middle East without a plan, without a strategy, and without any clear idea about where it leads or how it ends.

Even absent a draft, Americans will not tolerate this for long. If Trump's War costs many American lives, they will not forgive him.

For all these reasons, Trump's War may be his undoing. I pray it's not also the undoing of America.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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Opinión de un Invitado:

Trump no tiene ni idea de lo que hace

No tiene un objetivo final para su guerra, lo cual podría ser su perdición

Por Robert Reich

Trump declaró el lunes pasado que Estados Unidos continuaría atacando a Irán "cueste lo que cueste".

¿Pero qué significa "cueste" en esa frase?

También dijo: "Estamos destruyendo la capacidad misilística de Irán", "aniquilando su armada" y garantizando que "este régimen perverso y siniestro" en Irán "nunca pueda obtener un arma nuclear".

¿Pero cómo sabremos cuándo hemos logrado algo de esto?

Los funcionarios de inteligencia estadounidenses afirman que Irán no ha intentado reconstruir sus principales instalaciones nucleares desde el ataque estadounidense de junio. Las reservas iraníes de uranio enriquecido siguen enterradas bajo los escombros. El director del Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica afirma que su agencia no ha encontrado pruebas de que Irán haya reanudado el enriquecimiento de uranio desde junio.

Sin embargo, aún más fuerzas estadounidenses se dirigen a Oriente Medio, y Trump afirma que se avecinan oleadas de ataques aéreos más fuertes. No ha descartado el envío de tropas terrestres. Ni Trump ni ningún otro miembro de su régimen ha aclarado cómo sabremos si hemos "ganado" esta guerra. No tiene un objetivo final. Ha dado diferentes plazos y objetivos, según cuándo y con quién se dirija. Al ser preguntado por NBC News sobre sus objetivos, respondió: "El primero es decapitarlos, deshacerse de todo su grupo de asesinos y matones". Declaró a The Washington Post: "Lo único que quiero es libertad" para el pueblo iraní.

Trump declaró el domingo a Rachel Scott, de ABC News, que tenía un "plan magnífico" para el futuro de Irán. Comentó a otros medios que había "buenos" candidatos para asumir el cargo, pero luego le dijo a Jon Karl, de ABC, que todos los que tenía en mente habían muerto.

No puedo evitar pensar en la guerra de Vietnam, que preocupó gran parte de mi juventud (y, dado que tiene casi mi misma edad, presumiblemente también la de Trump). Tampoco allí había un final claro.

La mayor diferencia entre la guerra de Trump contra Irán y la de Lyndon Johnson en Vietnam fue que durante la guerra de Vietnam, Estados Unidos tenía un servicio militar obligatorio, lo que significaba que la administración tenía que justificar repetidamente la guerra ante el pueblo estadounidense. A medida que esa guerra descabellada se intensificaba y su justificación se volvía cada vez más difícil de alcanzar, se convirtió en un foco central de la política estadounidense, lo que finalmente provocó que LBJ abandonara la carrera presidencial de 1968.

Pero Trump no siente presión para justificar ni explicar nada. No tiene ni idea de lo que hace en Irán. Está improvisando. Cree que, de alguna manera, puede lograrlo porque se cree invencible.

Es el modus operandi de Trump. Le encanta crear caos porque el caos le permite improvisar: imponer su propia narrativa a un aluvión de acontecimientos, eludir la responsabilidad de los fracasos, atribuirse el mérito de los éxitos y crear ilusiones de gloria y victoria.

Pero el caos que ha provocado en Oriente Medio es tan grande que la narrativa podría estar ya fuera de su control. La conflagración está escalando y extendiéndose demasiado rápido. Apenas tres días después, está tomando decisiones contradictorias e inconsistentes y ofreciendo versiones contradictorias.

Asumió que una guerra le sería útil. Justificaría medidas de emergencia en casa. Desviaría la atención de sus múltiples fracasos. Lo haría parecer más grande.

Pero ya lo está empequeñeciendo, más rehén de lo que ocurre que líder, más chivo expiatorio de Netanyahu que socio principal, otro presidente estadounidense absorbido por las fauces gigantes de Oriente Medio.

Los estadounidenses tienen memoria corta, pero sí recuerdan que Trump fue reelegido para lograr tres cosas: primero, bajar los precios. No lo ha hecho. La inflación crece a una tasa anualizada de casi el 3 %. Los precios del petróleo están a punto de dispararse debido a la guerra que ha iniciado en Oriente Medio.

segundo, prometió controlar la frontera sur del país. Lo ha logrado enviando agentes de inmigración dentro de Estados Unidos contra personas que se encuentran legalmente en el país, con tal barbarie —incluyendo al menos dos asesinatos— que la mayoría de los estadounidenses cree que ha ido demasiado lejos.

su tercera promesa fue evitar los enredos extranjeros. Durante la campaña de 2024, afirmó que "rompería el ciclo de cambio de régimen" y evitaría políticas "imprudentes". Señaló que derrocar regímenes sin planes crea "vacíos de poder que simplemente llenan los terroristas". Quería que Estados Unidos dejara de ser "el policía del mundo". Prometió repetidamente "expulsar a los belicistas" del gobierno. En la noche electoral de noviembre de 2024, declaró: «No voy a iniciar una guerra. Voy a detener las guerras».

Trump ha roto esta promesa con una negligencia asombrosa. Ha lanzado una guerra en Oriente Medio sin un plan, sin una estrategia y sin una idea clara de adónde conduce ni cómo termina.

Incluso sin reclutamiento, los estadounidenses no tolerarán esto por mucho tiempo. Si la guerra de Trump cuesta muchas vidas estadounidenses, no lo perdonarán.

Por todas estas razones, la guerra de Trump podría ser su perdición. Rezo para que no sea también la perdición de Estados Unidos.

Las opiniones expresadas en esta columna no son necesariamente las del editor o redactor

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Special World's Cultures

Colombia

Fernando Botero: Painter

Fernando Botero was born in Medellín, Colombia in 1932 and died in Monte Carlo, Monaco in 2023 at the age of 91. He was a Colombian visual artist: painter and sculptor with seven decades of artistic production. He was known as one of the most renowned artists of the Americas, he was so outstanding in the history of art with his voluminous pieces that his work fostered the emergence of an artistic movement called "Boterismo". Fernando Botero's work is the most expensive in Latin America, breaking the record with the sculpture "Horseman" auctioned for $4.3 million USD and with the painting "Adam and Eve" sold for $2.9 million USD.

At the age of 17 he participated in a collective exhibition in Medellín and at the age of 19, in 1951, he held his first solo exhibition in Bogotá. In 1952 he won a prize and with this, together with the sale of some of his works, he was able to pay for his studies in Madrid at the San Fernando Royal Academy of Art, not counting the drawings he sold outside the Prado Museum.

Botero's artistic work is distinguished by co rpu l ent and voluminous representat ions, somet imes of objects, sometimes of animals, sometimes of people; however, these voluminous representations have refined details, allowing for contrasts in the same work. His aesthetics show influences from Mexican mural ism and his narrative corresponds to Colombian daily life. Fernando Botero called himself "the most Colombian of Colombian artists."

Son of a seamstress mother and a horse-seller father. Fernando Botero donated more than 120 works of art to the collections of museums in Colombia, in order to enrich the cultural heritage, as well as to allow access to the general public, since his macro-format sculptures can be seen in the city of Medellín, in Colombia.

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

Lenten Recipe: Colombian Rice With Shrimp

Ingredients:

800 grams raw shrimp
2 cups rice
1/2 white onion
1 green onion
1 red bell pepper
1/4 leek
2 cloves minced garlic
1/2 large carrot
1/2 cup peas
5 tablespoons natural tomato puree
Salt and pepper to taste
1/2 teaspoon turmeric
1/2 teaspoon annatto
2 tablespoons shredded coconut
Zest of 1 lemon
Juice of half a lemon
Chopped cilantro to taste for garnish

Preparation:

Para empezar, es necesario preparar el recaudo o cTo begin, prepare the broth in which the rice will be cooked. Peel the shrimp and reserve the shells. In a pot, sauté half the bell pepper, the onions, the leek, and one tablespoon of tomato puree in oil. Stir and then add the shrimp shells. Add 4 cups of water, stir, and let it cook for about 10 minutes. If foam appears, remove it with a spoon. Strain everything and set aside.

Cook the peas and carrots separately for 5 minutes.

Add two tablespoons of olive oil, the annatto (if you have it), and the previously washed rice to a hot pot and sauté it briefly. After cooking for about 3 minutes over high heat, reduce the heat and add the 4 cups of water, 1 teaspoon of salt, and the turmeric. Let the rice cook.

When the rice is almost done, in a separate pan, add olive oil and the remaining onions, bell pepper, leek, garlic, and tomato puree. Over medium heat, stir until the mixture becomes slightly glossy and the onions are translucent. Then add the shrimp. Keep in mind that if the shrimp are pre-cooked, they only need to cook briefly. In my case, they were raw and took about 7 minutes to cook. You'll know they're ready when they turn reddish-orange and shrink slightly.

The final step is to mix the rice, shrimp, peas, and carrots. Stir in the shredded coconut, lemon zest, and juice. Add cilantro to taste and serve.

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Colombia

Fernando Botero: Pintor

Fernando Botero nació en Medellín, Colombia en 1932 y murió en Montecarlo, Mónaco en 2023 de 91 años fue un artista plástico: pintor y escultor colombiano con siete décadas de producción artística. Conocido como uno de los artistas más reconocidos del continente americano, fue tan sobresaliente para la historia del arte con sus piezas voluminosas propiciando con su obra el surgimiento de un movimiento artístico llamado el "Boterismo".

La obra de Fernando Botero es la más cara de Iberoamérica rompiendo el récord con la escultura "Horseman" subastada en $4.3 USD millones de dólares y con la pintura "Adán y Eva" vendida en $2.9 USD millones de dólares. A los 17 años participó en una exposición colectiva en Medellín y para los 19 años, en 1951, llevó a cabo su primera exposición individual en Bogotá. En 1952 ganó un premio y con éste más la venta de algunas de sus obras logró pagarse sus estudios en Madrid en la Real Academia de Arte San Fernando, se mantuvo con la beca y los dibujos que vendía en las afueras del Museo del Prado.

La obra artística de Botero se distingue por representaciones corpulentas y voluminosas, ya de objetos, ya de animales, ya de personas; sin embargo, estas representaciones voluminosas cuentan con detalles refinados, permitiendo la contraposición en la misma obra. Su estética muestra influencias del muralismo mexicano y su narrativa corresponde a la vida cotidiana colombiana.

Fernando Botero se nombró a sí mismo "el artista colombiano más colombiano de los artistas". Hijo de madre costurera y padre vendedor a caballo.

Fernando Botero donó más de 120 obras artísticas a las colecciones de museos de Colombia, en aras de enriquecer el acervo cultural, así como permitir el acceso al público general, pues sus esculturas de macroformato pueden ser vistas en la ciudad de Medellín.

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
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Hispanic News

Receta de cuaresma: Arroz con camarones

Ingredientes:

800 gramos de camarón crudos
2 tazas de arroz
½ cebolla blanca
1 cebolla verde
1 pimentón rojo
¼ de puerro
2 dientes de ajo picado
½ zanahoria grande
½ taza de chícharo
5 cucharadas de puré de tomate natural
Sal y pimienta al gusto
½ cucharadita de cúrcuma
½ cucharadita de achiote
2 cucharadas de coco rallado
Ralladura de 1 limón
Jugo de medio limón
Cilantro picado al gusto para adornar

Preparación:

Para empezar, es necesario preparar el recaudo o caldo en el que se cocerá el arroz. Para debes pelar los camarones y reservar las cáscaras. En una olla saltea con aceite la mitad de la cantidad del pimentón, las cebollas, el puerro y una cucharada del puré de tomate. Revuelve y agrega luego las cáscaras de los camarones. Agrega 4 tazas de agua, revuelve, y deja cocer por unos 10 minutos. Si sale espuma, quítala con una cuchara. Pasa todo por un colador y reserva.

Cocer los chícharos y la zanahoria aparte por 5 minutos.

Agrega a una olla caliente dos cucharadas de aceite de oliva, el achiote (si tienes) y el arroz previamente lavado que vayas a usar y sofríelo un poco. Luego de hacer esto por unos 3 minutos a alta temperatura, bájala y agrega las 4 tazas de agua, 1 cucharadita de sal, la cúrcuma y deja que el arroz se cocine.

Cuando falte poco para que el arroz esté listo, en una sartén aparte agrega aceite de oliva y el resto de cebollas, pimentón, puerro, el ajo y el puré del tomate. A temperatura media revuelve hasta que el guiso se vaya poniendo un poco brillante y las cebollas transparentes. Agrega luego los camarones. Ten cuenta que si estos están previamente cocidos el tiempo que los debes dejar es muy breve. En mi caso éstos estaban crudos y se demoraron alrededor de unos 7 minutos en estar listos. Puedes ver que están listos cuando cambian de color a rojizo-naranja y se encogen un poco.

El paso final es mezclar el arroz, los camarones, los chícharos y la zanahoria. Revuelve y agrega el coco rallado, la ralladura del limón y su jugo. Agrega cilantro al gusto y sirve.

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Encontrar recursos no debería.
Si usted es un cuidador que equilibra su vida laboral y familiar con el cuidado de un ser querido adulto mayor, su Area Agency on Aging (AAA) (Agencia del Área sobre el Envejecimiento) local puede ayudarle.
Utilice el centro virtual "Mi Caregiver Connection" para ver qué programas, servicios y recursos están disponibles en su AAA local.
Conéctese para obtener soporte en MiCaregiver Connection.com

Mi Caregiver Connection
Resources. Support. Community.
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AREA AGENCIES ON AGING ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN
The Senior Alliance
LIVE YOUR WAY
Caregiving takes time.
Finding resources shouldn't.
If you are a caregiver balancing work and family life with caring for an aging loved one, your local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) can help.
Use the Mi Caregiver Connection virtual resource hub to see what programs, services, and resources are available from your local AAA.
Get connected to support at MiCaregiver Connection.com

TheSeniorAlliance.org 734-722-2830 MiCaregiverConnection.com